

PROBE BEGINS AT ANNAPOLIS INTO CHARGES OF "GOUGING"

Seven Accused Midshipmen Permitted to Retain Counsel, Publicity to Be Courted at All Proceedings.

Attempt Made to Secure Temporary Freedom of Prisoners Fails, Captain Russell Putting It Up to Academy.

ANNAPOLIS, June 7.—The special court of inquiry appointed by Secretary of the Navy Daniels to investigate the whole subject of "gouging," or the use of unfair means in examinations, at the Naval Academy, with special reference to the cases of seven midshipmen whose dismissal has been recommended by Superintendent Fullam, began its sessions here today.

The court's act was to grant the request of the midshipmen specially mentioned in the proceedings that counsel be permitted them, and also to permit absolute publicity in all the proceedings.

The seven midshipmen are: Ralph M. Nelson, first class; C. B. Evans, S. A. Hamilton and L. P. Wessells, second class, and J. E. Moss, T. W. Harrison and D. B. Duncan, third class. Their counsel are Congressmen C. C. Carlin and James Hay, and Robert Moss, of Annapolis, the latter the father of Midshipman Moss, one of the accused.

WIDEST LATITUDE.

Under the precept which contains the working guide for the court, it is to inquire into the whole subject, and the widest latitude is given it. While the conduct of the seven midshipmen is given a special place, it states most specifically that the conduct of any person in the naval service may be investigated, and that the court will make such recommendations as it thinks proper.

The court is composed of Capt. Robert W. Russell, president; Commanders A. T. Long and Louis R. De Steiguer, additional members, and Lieut. Commander E. T. Watt, judge advocate.

All of the counsel represented each of the midshipmen under charges. A strong effort was made at the start by Mr. Carlin to secure the release of the young men so that the proceedings could go on without prejudice to them. It was his contention that the proceedings were beginning anew, and that there was no more reason to connect them with it than any other person.

The court, through Captain Russell, ruled, however, that under the precept from the Secretary of the Navy, the conduct of the seven midshipmen was especially before the court. Captain Russell also said that the character of the arrest and confinement was a matter to be settled by the superintendent of the Naval Academy.

Publicity Courted.

The sessions of the court are being held in a large class room in Sampson Hall, and every facility is being offered the press and public to be informed of every step that is taken. The thoroughness of the proceedings is being emphasized.

CONDITION OF GREEK KING IS CRITICAL

Ruler's Illness Paralyzes Political Activities Preceding Election to Be Held June 13.

ATHENS, June 7.—King Constantine's condition was described as "critical" in an official bulletin issued today by Premier Gounaris and nearly all the members of the cabinet remained at the palace all night.

The King's illness is very restless night. His temperature at midnight was 103.3, his pulse 125 and his respiration 26. Physicians say that while they expected a rise in temperature following Saturday's operation, the condition of their patient unquestionably is alarming.

The serious illness of the King has paralyzed political activities preceding the elections to be held June 13. There is no doubt that the war party, led by former Premier Venizelos, has suffered through sympathy with the King.

Heads Naval Inquiry Of Cheating Charges



—Photo by American Press Association.
CAPT. R. L. RUSSELL.

U. S. EXODUS BEGINS FROM MEXICO CITY

Special Train Leaves Capital With 318 Foreigners of Different Nationalities.

The exodus of Americans and other foreigners from Mexico City has begun.

The Brazilian minister at the Mexican capital wired the State Department that a special train carrying 318 men, women, and children, was leaving there today. It was furnished by the Mexican authorities.

According to the minister's figures, those on the train include ninety Americans, forty-four Englishmen, 127 Spaniards and fifty-seven persons of other nationalities.

There is a wide discrepancy between these figures and those furnished by Consul John R. Silliman at Vera Cruz, who reported that there were 600 Americans and other foreigners ready to leave, and that of this number one-half were women and children.

The special train will proceed to Tlaxcala, where there is a twenty-eight-mile break in the railroad line which will have to be covered by caravan.

Mr. Silliman advised the State Department that a train was leaving Vera Cruz with the British consul and American Consul, Shanklin on board to meet the refugees at the eastern end of the gap.

Doing Everything Possible.

The Brazilian minister said that his legation is doing everything possible to relieve the distress of the Americans and other foreigners who have decided to remain in Mexico City.

Confirmation of the recent raid across the border by Texas cowboys in search of two boys kidnapped by Maytorena soldiers was received here today in the form of a report from Consul Simplich. The two boys, whose names were Vaughan and Kang, the consul stated, had been taken over the border when he was advised of the outrage. He at once got into communication with Maytorena, who promised to investigate. Subsequently, and while this "investigation" was in progress, the American posse rode across to where the boys were being kept, and effected their release without opposition.

Officials of the Administration claimed today to have no official knowledge of the reports from Mexico to the effect that General Villa is ready to reach an agreement with Carranza in response to President Wilson's warning, and that a conference between representatives of the various factions will shortly be held here in Washington or in Mexico. It is expected that at tomorrow's cabinet meeting the President will direct the discussion to Mexican affairs, and that, as a result, the next step in the new policy may be indicated.

The serious illness of the King has paralyzed political activities preceding the elections to be held June 13. There is no doubt that the war party, led by former Premier Venizelos, has suffered through sympathy with the King.

Count Berchtold Would Serve as War Chauffeur

VIENNA, June 7.—Count Leopold Berchtold, ex-Austro-Hungarian premier and minister of foreign affairs, has volunteered his services as a chauffeur for the Italian campaign.

He is desirous of accompanying his son to the front.

U. S. REVENUE THREE GERMAN AGENT SOUGHT IN FRAUD CASE BALTIMORE CLASH

Disappearance of Knox Booth Follows Arrest of Distilling Company's Head.

SUM OF \$200,000 INVOLVED

Seven-Year Probe of Conspiracies to Rob Federal Government Nearing Climax.

Knox Booth, internal revenue agent for the Tennessee-Alabama district, is declared to be a fugitive from justice by Treasury Department officials today, who say he is being sought by secret agents of the Government in connection with an alleged revenue fraud extending over three years, that will reach \$200,000.

Booth has been missing for two weeks. His disappearance, it was stated at the Treasury today, was coincident with the arrest at Fort Smith, Ark., of John L. Caspar, president of a big distilling company there.

Caspar is held in \$5,000 bond for alleged conspiracy to defraud the Government of internal revenue tax. Guy L. Hartman, an associate of Caspar, was arrested in Kansas City, and according to internal revenue officials, put a \$20,000 bond pending a preliminary hearing, but also is missing.

Much Officials Involved.

A number of minor internal revenue officials and employees are involved in another alleged scandal reaching over many of the Southern States, and which Treasury officials state will aggregate a \$200,000 fraud extending over many years.

"Blockaders have been operating in this territory (Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, and the southern Mississippi river States) for a number of years, a high official stated today. Several arrests have been made and others are pending," he said.

It is alleged by internal revenue officials that the secret agents are at work to uncover frauds that officials believe will aggregate in the neighborhood of possibly \$2,000,000 a year for the past ten years.

The arrest of Caspar was brought about by James L. Barkin, internal revenue agent at Little Rock, Ark.

Began Back in 1907.

Records in the Treasury Department show that investigation was begun as long ago as 1907. This investigation had today with alleged "blockaders" in Virginia and North Carolina, and was made by Chief Inspector David A. Gates. This investigation, however, was never brought to a head.

Division Agent Booth, who is being sought by secret agents of the Government, has been suspended. His district formerly embraced the State of Tennessee but this State was placed in another jurisdiction in a recent re-districting. Booth's headquarters were at Nashville.

Officials, from alleged collusion between storekeepers and gangsters, and minor employees. An effort is to be made by Internal Revenue Commissioner Osborne to gather in some of the tax lost through this alleged evasion and collusion.

NATURALIZED AFTER 31 YEARS IN ARMY

Sergeant Major Julius Moll, Retired, Native of Germany, Becomes Citizen.

Sergeant Major Julius Moll, U. S. A., retired, who served thirty-one years in the Sixth Cavalry, holding every non-commissioned office in the regiment, was naturalized as a citizen of the United States today in the District Supreme Court.

He was admitted to citizenship under a recent act of Congress, which provides that an honorable discharge from the army is sufficient for naturalization and takes the place of the residency clause of older naturalization acts.

Sergeant Moll, who was born in Germany, is sixty years old. The court ordered an army order, issued at the time of his discharge, commanding him or his faithful service and conduct, to be placed in the court records.

Lusitania Steward Denies Liner Carried Single Gun

NEW YORK, June 7.—That "not a gun nor even a gun carriage" was on the Lusitania when that ship sailed from New York May 1, was reiterated today by J. F. Leach through Frank Winch, a San Francisco newspaper man, who arrived from Liverpool a few days ago.

Leach is the Lusitania steward referred to in Gustav Stahl's affidavit, presented to the State Department by the German ambassador, as the man who took him on the Lusitania the day before she sailed from New York and showed him four mounted guns.

ZEPPELIN DESTROYED IN CLOUDS AFTER RAID UPON ENGLISH COAST

FRENCH USE 'LIQUID FIRE,' GERMANS BURNED ALIVE

BERLIN (via wireless to London), June 7.—French troops have resorted to the use of "liquid fire," according to an official statement from the war office this afternoon.

The German trenches near Baugois were sprayed with the fiery fluid. The attack was unexpected and many soldiers in the advanced works were burned alive before they could retreat. The enemy attempted to follow up this attack by rushing the trenches, but were beaten off by a rain of shrapnel and machine gun bullets.

The war office admits that the French penetrated the German advanced trenches northeast of Soissons. Elsewhere all French attacks were repulsed. The enemy launched particularly vigorous assaults against the German positions on the south slope of the Lorette Hills and southeast of Duterne.

U.S. to Send Answer To Berlin Tomorrow At Latest, Is Promise

No Foundation in Fact for Inference That Delay Has Been Caused by Change in Policy, President Asserts—Uncompromising Position Maintained.

That President Wilson's rejoinder to Germany will be sent on its way to Berlin not later than tomorrow, is the promise held out today by Administration officials.

Why the dispatch of the communication has been delayed this long is not explained.

It is stated, however, and in a manner most emphatic, that there is absolutely no foundation in fact for the inferences which have been drawn in certain quarters that there has been a change of policy, a weakening of position, or a tendency to submit to parley.

The position of the United States has been, and will continue to be, declared persons claiming to speak with authority, an uncompromising demand for the respect to which the rights of America and of Americans are entitled.

GERMANY MUST GIVE SATISFACTION.

Germany must give satisfaction for the destruction of American lives on the Lusitania, she must disavow the attack made by one of her submarines on an unarmed merchant vessel without warning, without the exercise of the recognized duty of visit and search, and without making any effort to save the lives of those on board.

"Strict accountability," it was pointed out by officials, was what the United States wanted Germany to give. The State Department announced today receipt of a cable from Ambassador Gerard at Berlin, saying he had asked the German foreign office for a statement concerning the Nebraska incident and had been told the department had received no official information of such an attack, but would investigate it fully through the admiralty and report to Gerard as promptly as possible.

Officials would not speculate as to the contents of the reply the President will send to the Lusitania note. On the contrary, it was stated that President Wilson is extremely perplexed by much that has been printed in the German press, and particularly in the way of attempted explanations for the delay in sending the rejoinder.

Last week, in urging the newspaper correspondents to refrain from comment pending the dispatch of the note, he promised that it would be sent as soon as possible after its completion. In the same appeal, he repeated today.

Inquiries today to determine whether the Administration was satisfied with the offers of prompt compensation and the expressions of regret made by Germany in the case of the American tank-ship, the *Albatross*, were not answered.

Two Men Are Held On Gaming Charge

Lawrence Chapman and John Wheeler, Caught in Raid, Face Trial.

Lawrence Chapman and John Wheeler, alias King Wheeler, 160 of the men arrested in the raid on a house near Twenty-second and N streets northwest yesterday, in which the police took into custody more than fifty colored men, were held for the action of the grand jury in the United States District Court today. The seventy-five or more witnesses were released on their personal bonds to appear before the grand jury when the trials of Chapman and Wheeler are called.

THRILLING BATTLE IN SKIES SEEN OVER BELGIUM

British Aviators Drop Bombs on Air Monster From 6,000 Feet Above Earth.

ALSO DESTROY HANGARS

Two Fires Set and Five People Killed by Germans' Coast Attack.

LONDON, June 7.—Aerial warfare overshadowed land and sea battles in today's dispatches from the western theater of war-ridden Europe.

For the second time in forty-eight hours the English east coast was bombed by a hostile airship. Five persons were killed, forty wounded, and two big fires started.

British airmen destroyed a Zeppelin in a spectacular cloud battle over Belgium. This is believed to be the same one which raided the English coast.

Two other British aviators bombarded a German airship shed at Evers, north of Brussels, and destroyed it by fire. Whether a Zeppelin was inside the hangar is not known to the admiralty.

DETAILS WITHHELD.

Following its new policy of withholding certain details of Zeppelin attacks, the admiralty did not specify the exact localities attacked in last night's raid. The official bulletin issued this afternoon did not indicate whether the Kaiser's airship made an attempt to reach London. Other details of the attack, it is understood, may be given out later.

The destruction of the Zeppelin between Ghent and Bruges followed one of the most thrilling air battles the world has ever known.

The British airmen shot upward to a height of 6,000 feet and hurled six bombs at the great dirigible, which zigzagged in flight to escape attack.

Scarcely a second after the last bomb went shooting down, a terrific explosion rent the airship. It crumpled in the center and darted toward earth.

FELL IN GERMAN LINES.

The force of the explosion caused the British biplane to turn completely over, for nearly a minute the aviator struggled desperately while his machine slid rapidly toward the earth.

By an almost superhuman effort, he regained control of his levers, and righted the biplane, less than 200 feet from the ground.

The rapidity of his descent, however, carried the biplane to earth with a rough jar.

The landing place was behind the German lines. The mechanic sprang out, "cranked" the propellers, and the biplane was off before the astonished Germans in a neighboring field could get the range with their guns.

The aviators who bombarded the Zeppelin in a neighboring field could get the range with their guns.

The statement is a narrative of desperate assaults by British, French, and German airmen.

Gain at Dardanelles Of 500 Yards Made at Heavy Cost to Allies

LONDON, June 7.—The general advance attempted by the allied troops on the Gallipoli peninsula on Thursday and Friday netted a gain of 500 yards on a front of nearly three miles.

But it appears from the official statement regarding these operations that various divisions of the allies, after making still more substantial gains by dint of great gallantry, were unable fully to hold these gains because of the activity of the Turkish artillery and on account of fierce counter attacks.

The statement is a narrative of desperate assaults by British, French, and German airmen.